

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

Applicant(s)

09 989,865

SAITO ET AL

Examiner

Art Unit

Sang H Nguyen

2877

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 0870040
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-5 and 7-10 which have been renumbered as indicated 1-9
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 16 November 2001 are accepted by the Examiner
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f):
 - a. ☐ All b. ☐ Some c. ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
 - * Certified copies not received: _____
5. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application):
 - (a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received
6. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application. **THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

7. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
8. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS must be submitted:
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached:
 1. ☐ hereto or 2. ☐ to Paper No. _____
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the proposed drawing correction filed _____ which has been approved by the Examiner
 - (c) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment/Comment or in the Office action of Paper No. _____

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet.

9. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3 <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 4 <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No. _____ |
| 5 <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449), Paper No. _____ | 6 <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 7 <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material | 8 <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9 <input type="checkbox"/> Other |

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

Applicant's amendment filed on 08/06/03 has been received and made of record in the Application. It is noted that the present application contains claims 1-5 and 7-10, and claim 6 has been canceled by the Amendment filed on 08/06/03.

Allowable Subject Matter

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: As to independent claims 1 and 7, the prior arts of record, taken alone or in combination, fails to disclose or render a mounting information-collecting method and device comprising all the specific elements with the specific combination including a plurality of optical signal-processing elements cascaded one after another along a path of the optical signal, wherein each of which processes the optical signal passing therethrough in a manner that depends on the position and/or conditions of each of the circuit boards and a mounting information-collecting unit for determining the position and/or conditions of each of the circuit boards being mounted at the housing by identifying how the optical signal has been processed by the optical signal-processing elements, in combination with the rest of the limitations of claims 1 and 7.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

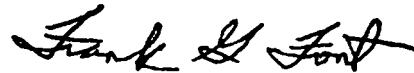
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the Examiner should be directed to Examiner Sang Nguyen whose telephone number (703) 308-6426. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday from 8:30 am to 5:00 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's Supervisor, Mr. Frank Font, can be reached on (703) 308-4881. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 308-7722 or 7724.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0956.

Nguyen/ sn 8N

September 03, 2003



Frank G. Font
Supervisory Patent Examiner
Art Unit 2877
Technology Center 2800